

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 538

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to congratulate William Leo and Marianna Cumbee Smith on the celebration of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly takes great pleasure in paying tribute to those successful marriages that have stood the test of time to serve as exemplars for present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, on February 10, 1942, William Leo Smith and Marianna Cumbee were joined in holy matrimony, and since that fateful day this outstanding couple has faced the world as one, basking in the glow of their love for each other during both life's joys and sorrows; and

WHEREAS, both raised in Ballard County, Kentucky, Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been highly respected citizens of Graves County, Kentucky for over forty-five years; they are the very epitome of good neighbors, as they always endeavor to treat others as they would like to be treated; and

WHEREAS, born on July 6, 1922, Mr. Leo Smith served with acumen and alacrity as an electrician with Illinois Central Railroad before taking a well-deserved retirement; he has previously worked as a farmer and mechanic, and in both professions, he earned the respect of his peers, customers, and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born on November 4, 1926, Mrs. Marianna Smith became an entrepreneur in 1978 when the couple bought a store in Lowes, Kentucky, which became known as Smith's Grocery; many people in the community became devoted customers of the business because of the unsurpassed quality of products and service offered there; and

WHEREAS, this patriotic couple are members of the estimable group which has come to be known as the "Greatest Generation"; during World War II, Leo Smith answered his country's call to duty, as he joined with other valiant citizen soldiers to defend our nation and freedoms and serve in the United States Army from January 1943 until October 1945; and

WHEREAS, while her husband was abroad, Marianna Smith made invaluable contributions on the homefront; much of her time was occupied in her caring for a young son, but she also found time to work at J.C. Penney's and volunteer in numerous ways to aid the war effort; and

WHEREAS, this fine couple's praiseworthy marriage has produced five children, each of whom has excelled in his or her particular field of endeavor; the Smiths' children are Shelton Leo Smith, Gary Kendall Smith, David Lynn Smith, Neal Ray Smith, and Teresa Lea Vancil; and

WHEREAS, the Smiths are also the proud grandparents of eight grandchildren, Davina King, Marlon Smith, LaDonna Driver, Tiffany Smith, Kendall Smith, Zachary Smith, Josh Gilley, and Jordyn Gilley and five great-grandchildren, Jessica King, Susanna Smith, Nicole King, Caroline Smith, and Jonathan Smith; and

WHEREAS, for sixty years, this blessed union has grown and prospered as an expression of time-honored family values and selfless love; and

WHEREAS, marriages such as the Smiths' are truly the rock-solid foundation upon which our society is built and a beacon of sanity and continuity in these turbulent times; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate William Leo and Marianna Cumbee

Smith on the celebration of their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and extend to them our best wishes for much continued happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.